



Department
for Culture,
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Sir Bernard Jenkin MP
Chair
Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

INT2025/12067/DC

Dear Sir Bernard,

Statutory Instrument Practice

Thank you for your letter of 23 October 2025 to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. I am responding as the Minister responsible for The National Archives, and as DCMS Legislation Minister. The National Archives is responsible for the publication of Statutory Instrument Practice (SIP) through their Chief Executive's roles as Controller of His Majesty's Stationery Office and King's Printer of Acts of Parliament.

I note the Joint Committee's comments on paragraph 3.11.28 of SIP, and its view that the guidance should go further and require all relevant statutory pre-conditions to be cited in the preamble.

Having liaised with officials at The National Archives, I can confirm that an update to SIP is currently in progress. The pace of events since 2017 means that they are now working towards a more componentised version of SIP which will be easier to maintain and manage in the future. This will be done in two stages – an interim update to the current SIP, and a full revision, including modularising SIP, that is produced in tandem with retiring the SI Template and switching over to Lawmaker.

There will be a draft of the interim update to the current version of SIP for the JCSI's legal advisors to review by the end of January 2026. I am told that the interim update will focus on Part 3 of the current SIP and, as such, the issue raised in your letter will be considered during the update process.

With best wishes,

Baroness Twycross
Minister for Museums, Heritage and Gambling

cc: the SI Registrar; Catherine Davidson (SI Hub), Saul Nassé (Chief Executive, The National Archives)

